

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:732
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
INCONVENIENCE TO HAJ PILGRIMS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of External Affairs had constituted a group of Ministers to look into Haj arrangements and authorities were asked to probe into the incident of stranding of hundreds of Indian pilgrims at Jeddah airport during the recent pilgrimage;
- (b) if so, whether any report has been received in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

- (a) The Government constituted a Group of Ministers consisting of Minister of External Affairs, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Minister of Finance and Minister of Civil Aviation to review Haj Charter operations.
- (b) & (c) This group has already submitted its recommendations which are under consideration of the Government.